## LAW OFFICES OF LOUIS E. GITOMER

LOUIS E. GITOMER
LOU\_GITOMER@VERIZON.NET

MELANIE B. YASBIN
MELANIE@LGRAILLAW.COM

THE ADAMS BUILDING, SUITE 301 600 BALTIMORE AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204-4022 (202) 466-6532 FAX (410) 332-0885

November 18, 2010

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20423

RE: STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 691X), CSX Transportation, Inc. – Abandonment Exemption –in Worcester County, MA

## **EXPEDITED HANDLING IS REQUESTED**

228279

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of a Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility filed by the Georgetown and High Line Railway Company, LLC (GHLR"). Also enclosed is a check for the filing fee of \$250.

CSX Transportation, Inc. has not consummated the abandonment. GHLR requests that the Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment be issued for a one year period because funding for these projects has become difficult to obtain during the economic downturn. See, e.g., Southern Pacific Transportation Company—Abandonment Exemption—Wendel-Alturas Line in Modoc and Lassen Counties, CA, Docket No. AB-12 (Sub-No. 184X) (STB served Sept. 1, 2005).

Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and the Statement and return them in the enclosed stamped envelop. Thank you for your assistance.

Office of Proceedings

If you have any questions please call or email me.

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SURFACE

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

**Enclosures** 

Cc: Mr. Armbrust

Sincerely yours,

Melanie B. Yasbin

Attorney for Georgetown and High Line Railway

Company, LLC

## BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 691X)



## CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—IN WORCESTER COUNTY, MA

STATEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U.S.C. §1247(d) and 49 CFR §1152.29, Georgetown and High Line Railway Company, LLC ("G&H") is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of, and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned and operated by CSX Transportation, Inc., as successor by merger to New York Central Lines, LLC ("CSXT"). The property extends from milepost QBU 0.0 (Fitchburg) and milepost QBU 4.2 (Leominster), in Worcester County, MA. The right-of-way is the line of railroad proposed for abandonment in STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 691X).

A map of the property depicting the right-of-way is attached.

G&H acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on CSXT on the same date it is being served on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie B. Yasbin

Attorney for Georgetown and High Line Railway Company, LLC

Dated: November 18, 2010

